

NOMINATION FORM FOR COUNTY FSA COMMITTEE ELECTION

1. NAME OF NOMINEE (Type or Print Nominee's Full Name) 4. INITIALS OF EMPLOYEE RECEIVING FORM AND DATE RECEIVED

2. ADDRESS OF NOMINEE 5. COUNTY Skagit

6. LAA #1 #2 7. STATE Washington

3. NOMINEE'S CERTIFICATION: 8. NOMINATOR'S CERTIFICATION:

I hereby agree to have my name placed on the ballot, that I will serve if elected, and if there is a conflict of interest, I will resign such position.

I DO want to witness the setting of tied votes with another nominee.

I DO NOT want to witness the setting of tied votes with another nominee.

3A. SIGNATURE OF NOMINEE 3B. DATE 8A. SIGNATURE OF NOMINATOR 8B. DATE

Check here if nominee is a write-in candidate. (If the individual is self nominating, no signature is required).

9. TO BE COMPLETED BY NOMINEE

VOLUNTARY INFORMATION FOR MONITORING PURPOSES: The following information is requested by the Federal Government in order to monitor FSA's compliance with federal laws prohibiting discrimination against program participants on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, marital status, handicapped condition, or age. You are not required to furnish this information, but are encouraged to do so. This information will not be used in evaluating your nomination or to discriminate against you in any way.

ETHNICITY: ☐ Hispanic or Latino ☐ American Indian or Alaska Native ☐ Black or African-American ☐ Not Hispanic or Latino ☐ Asian ☐ Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander ☐ White ☐ Male ☐ Female

INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING THIS FORM

Complete the form as follows:

ITEM 1 Type or Print the nominee's full name. The nominee must be:

- A. Eligible to vote in the designated County FSA Committee election.
- B. Eligible to hold the office of County FSA Committee member.
- C. Willing to serve if elected.

ITEM 2 Enter the nominee's current address.

ITEM 3 The nominee must check one of the boxes to indicate a preference regarding the setting of tied votes.

ITEMS 3A & 3B The nominee must sign and date.

ITEMS 8A & 8B The nominator must sign and date. (If the individual is self nominating, no signature is required.)

ITEM 9 Completing this item is voluntary.

ALL FORMS MUST BE RECEIVED IN THE COUNTY OFFICE OR POSTMARKED BY AUGUST 1, 2011.

NOTE: The following statement is made in accordance with the Privacy Act of 1974 (5 USC 552a) as amended. The authority for requesting the information identified on this form is the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 (Pub. L. 110-246). The information will be used to obtain nominees for election to the County FSA Committee. The information collected on this form may be disclosed to other Federal, State, local government agencies, tribal agencies, and non-governmental entities that have been authorized access to the information by statute or regulation and/or as described in applicable Privacy Use(s) identified in the System of Records Notice for County Personnel Records, USDA/FSA-6. Providing the requested information is voluntary. However, failure to furnish the requested information will result in a determination of ineligibility for nomination for election to the County FSA Committee.

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, an agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is 0560-0229. The time required to complete this information collection is estimated to average 10 minutes per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. The provision of appropriate criminal and civil fraud, privacy, and other statutes may be applicable to the information provided. RETURN THIS COMPLETED FORM TO YOUR COUNTY FSA OFFICE.



United States Department of Agriculture Farm and Foreign Agricultural Services Skagit County FSA Office 2021 E. College Way Ste. 212 Mt Vernon, WA 98273-2373

May 2011

Dear Producer:

You are encouraged to nominate yourself or someone else to represent your interests on the Farm Service Agency County Committee. FSA county committees are a unique arrangement that allow local guidance for federal farm programs. These committees are a direct link between the farm community and the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Committee members are a critical component of ensuring FSA agricultural programs serve the needs of local producers. Committee members are compensated for their time and travel related to county committee duties.

The duties of county FSA committee members include:

- Participating in county meetings and hearing producer appeals at the local county level;
- Informing farmers of the purpose and provisions of FSA programs;
- Monitoring changes in farm programs and assisting with delivery of FSA farm programs at the local level;
- Performing other duties as assigned by the State FSA Committee.

This year, nominations are for a committee member to represent producers in Skagit County Local Administrative Areas (LAA). Please feel free to call the County Office for a more detailed description or a copy of the LAA maps.

LAA #2 is located south of Hwy 20 and west of I-5, and includes the area east of I-5 to Bacon Road from Hickox Road south to Starbird Road.

LAA #5 consists of all of Island County, including both Whidbey Island and Camano Island.

To hold office as a county committee member, a person must meet the basic eligibility requirements described below:

- Actively participate in the operation of a farm or ranch;
- Be eligible to vote in a county committee election. (Be of legal voting age and have an interest in a farm or ranch; not of legal voting age but supervises and conducts farming operations on an entire farm; participates in any FSA program);
- Reside in the LAA in which the person is a candidate.

The nomination form FSA-669A allows individuals to nominate themselves or any other person as a candidate. Each form submitted must be limited to one nominee and signed and dated by the nominee (Item 3A) to indicate a willingness to have their name placed on the ballot and agree to serve if elected. Item 8A reflects the nominator's signature and date. For detailed instructions on completing the nomination form or requesting a form, please contact your local county FSA office, or refer to the website <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/wla>.

The deadline for nominations is August 1, 2011. Completed nomination forms are to be submitted to the county FSA address listed at the top of this letter and should be returned, delivered, or postmarked no later than August 1, 2011.

Sincerely, /s/ Sandra Starbuck County Executive Director



Skagit-Island-San Juan FSA
2021 E College Way, Ste 212
Mount Vernon, WA 98273
Phone: (360) 428-7758
Fax: (360)848-1077

Office Hours
Monday – Friday
8:00 AM – 4:30 PM

County Committee
Mark Wesen, Chair
Todd Gordon, Vice-Chair
M.R. Buffum, Member
Len Engle, Member
Ernesto Roque, Member
Kris Hansen, Advisor

Office Staff
Sandra L Starbuck, CED
Ellen Medeiros, PT
Susan King, PT

**Farm Loan Staff, Whatcom
County FSA Office**
Mark Turner, FLM
Lynn Alderson, FLO

**Important Dates to
Remember**

May 30
Memorial Day office closure

June 1
DCP/ACRE signup ends

June 30
Crop reporting deadline

July 15
ACRE production report
deadline

July 29
SURE Sign up deadline



**Notice to Hispanic or Women
Farmers and Ranchers:
Compensation for Claims
Discrimination**

If you believe that the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) improperly denied farm loan benefits to you between 1981 and 2000 because you are Hispanic, or because you are female, you may be eligible to apply for compensation. You may be eligible if:

1. you sought a farm loan or farm-loan servicing from USDA during that period; and
2. the loan was denied, provided late, approved for a lesser amount than requested, approved with restrictive conditions, or USDA failed to provide an appropriate loan service; and
3. you believe these actions occurred because you are Hispanic or female.

If you want to register your name to receive a claims package, you can call the Farmer and Rancher Call Center at 1-888-508-4429 or access the following website:
www.farmerclaims.gov.

2011 ACRE/DCP Deadline

The deadline to enroll in both the Average Crop Revenue Election (ACRE) and the Direct and Counter-cyclical Programs (DCP) is **June 1, 2011**.

Acreage Reporting Deadline

Acreage reports are required under the 2008 Farm Bill to maintain eligibility for the DCP and ACRE programs, as well as CRP, NAP, SURE and most livestock disaster programs. Reports are also required for commodity loan eligibility. **June 30, 2011**, is the final date to timely certify. Beyond that date, fees will be assessed for late-filed acreage reporting.

NAP Production Deadline

Producers have until **June 30, 2011** to certify their 2010 NAP production.

Production amounts are used to calculate Actual Production History (APH) yields for future benefits. Reporting production for prior missing years (2009 and prior) is allowed by June 30, 2011, and may be used to calculate your (APH, as long as there is no current Notice of Loss on file for this year.

2009 SURE Sign up Deadline

The deadline for producers to submit applications for 2009 crop year Supplemental Revenue Assistance Payments Program (SURE) is **July 29, 2011**. The application and all required documentation must be on file and signed by close of business on that day.

A fact sheet with more detailed information is available on the FSA website. Maps of disaster designations by county are on the FSA website at www.fsa.usda.gov/wa. For more information, contact this office.

**Farm Changes and
Reconstitutions**

Any changes in your farm's physical makeup, such as adding or removing land, can impact your acreage basis. Farm reconstitutions must be requested by **August 1** to be effective for the 2011 program year. Your farm must comply with program requirements as the operation is currently structured, including required signatures and acreage reporting. Requesting a farm reconstitution after signup could delay your payment, require refunds, or require the process to be completed again.

BUDGET CUTS: Due to budget cuts, this may be the last county newsletter for the fiscal year, ending September 30, 2011. County offices may also not have the funds necessary to print field maps. Producers are encouraged to contact this office for program deadlines and other information.